

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: AMES, DONALD J, et al

Examiner: TBA

Serial No: TBA

Group Art Unit: TBA

Filed: HERewith

For: A METHOD OF JOINING OPTICAL FIBER
PREFORMS AND APPARATUS THEREFORINFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 – 1.98Commissioner of Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450


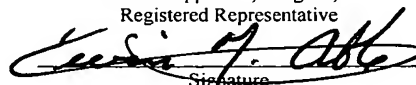
Dear Sir:

The Examiner's attention is hereby directed to the following reference(s) listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 for consideration in connection with the examination of the above-identified patent application. One copy of the reference(s) is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the enclosed documents constitute "prior art." If it should be determined that any of the submitted documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicant(s) reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant(s) further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the enclosed references, should one or more of the references be applied against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

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607-974-2637Date: 3/30/04I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the
United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to
Commissioner of Patents, Alexandria, Va 22313-1450 on3/30/04
Date of DepositKevin M. Able
Name of applicant, assignee, or
Registered Representative

Signature

3/30/04

Date of Signature

FORM PTO-1449 (MODIFIED) LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS FOR APPLICANTS INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	SERIAL NO.
	SP04-015	TBA
	APPLICANT AMES, DONALD J, et al.	
	FILING DATE HEREWITH	GROUP: TBA

REFERENCE DESIGNATION				U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub-Class	Filing Date if Approp.
	AA	4724020	2/9/88	Ebata et al.	156	82	
	AB	5509952	4/23/96	Moore et al.	65	406	
	AC	5689608	11/18/97	Moore et al.	385	139	
	AD	6098429	8/8/00	Mazabraud et al.	65	392	
	AE	6178779	1/30/01	Drouart et al.	65	391	
	AF	6305195	10/23/01	Fleming, Jr. et al.	65	391	
	AG	6484540	11/26/02	Shimada et al.	65	407	
	AH						
	AI						
	AJ						
	AK						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub-Class	Translation Yes No
	AL						
	AM						
	AN						
	AO						
	AP						
	AQ						

OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)	
	AR
	AS
	AT
	AU
	AV
	AW

EXAMINER: _____ DATE CONSIDERED: _____

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609: draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.